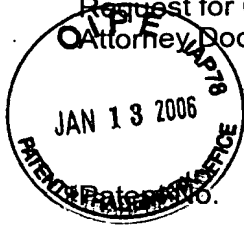


D9/455574 COFC

Patent No. 6,946,189

Request for Cert. of Correction dated January 11, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 3479-991620



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. : 6,946,189 ^{B2} Confirmation No. 5330
Inventor : Aalbertus Pieter KROESBERGEN
Issued : September 20, 2005
Title : Substrate With Super-Absorbent Material,
Method For Manufacture Thereof and Use
Examiner : Jonathon Johnson
Customer No. : 28289

Certificate
JAN 19 2006

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION OF PATENT
FOR PTO MISTAKE (37 C.F.R. 1.322(a)) ^{of Correction}

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: Decision and Certificate of Correction Branch
Patent Issue Division

Sir:

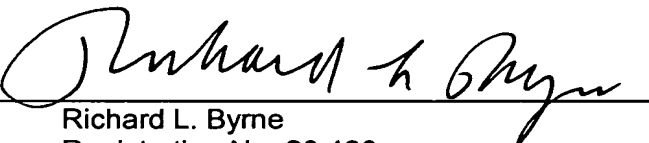
In accordance with 35 U.S.C. §254, we attach hereto Form PTO/SB/44 and a copy of proof of PTO errors and request that a Certificate of Correction be issued in the above-identified patent. The following errors appear in the patent as printed:

Column 2, Line 11, "diagram or me process" should read -- diagram of the process --
(See Preliminary Amendment dated December 6, 1999, page 2, line 1.)

Column 6, Line 55, Claim 2, "10 and 100 μ " should read -- 10 and 1000 μ . --
(See Reply Brief dated December 20, 2004, Appendix A, page 1, Claim 36, Line 4.
Claim 36 issued as Claim 2.)

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By 

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JAN 19 2006

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 6,946,189 *B2*
APPLICATION NO. : 09/455,574
ISSUE DATE : September 20, 2005
INVENTOR : Kroesbergen

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 2, Line 11, "diagram or me process" should read -- diagram of the process --

Column 6, Line 55, Claim 2, "10 and 100 μ " should read -- 10 and 1000 μ . --

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER: The Webb Law Firm
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1845

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-2450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select Option 2.



PATENT APPLICATION
Atty. Docket No. 702/991620

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
AALBERTUS PIETER KROESBERGEN : SUBSTRATE WITH
Serial No. Not Yet Assigned : SUPER-ABSORBENT MATERIAL,
Filed Concurrently Herewith : METHOD FOR MANUFACTURE
: THEREOF AND USE
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
December 6, 1999

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title and before line 1, insert the following:

--This is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/875,237, filed September 9, 1997.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention--.

Page 1, before line 6, insert the following heading:

--2. Description of the Related Art--.

Page 2, before line 8, insert the following heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 2, before line 22, insert the following:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 shows a schematic diagram of preparatory steps for manufacturing a super-absorbent powder according to prior art; and

Fig. 2 shows a schematic diagram of the process of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Original claims 1-33 were replaced during Chapter II proceedings with amended claims 1-34 in a letter dated December 17, 1996. Cancel amended claims 1-34 and insert claims 35-64 as follows:

--35. A substrate comprising a super-absorbent material applied to the substrate.

36. The substrate as claimed in claim 35, wherein the material has a significantly enlarged surface area achieved by having the super-absorbent material in the form of a plurality of discrete, substantially semi-spherical islets with a diameter
5 between 10 and 1000 μ .

37. The substrate as claimed in claim 35, wherein the super-absorbent material is obtainable by allowing suitable monomers to polymerize in presence of a catalyst to obtain a polymer solution, adding a cross-linking agent to the polymer
5 solution to obtain a pasty composition, and applying the composition to the substrate.

38. The substrate as claimed in claim 35, wherein the super-absorbent material is a foam.

Appellant's Reply Brief Under 37 C.F.R. § 41.41
Application No. 09/455,574
Reply to Office Action dated October 20, 2004
Paper Dated: December 20, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 3749-991620

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/455,574 Confirmation No. 5330
Appellant : Aalbertus Pieter Kroesbergen
Filed : December 6, 1999
Title : SUBSTRATE WITH SUPER-ABSORBENT
MATERIAL, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURE
THEREOF AND USE
Group Art Unit : 1725
Examiner : Jonathan J. Johnson
Customer No. : 28289

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.41

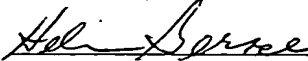
Sir:

The present paper represents a Reply Brief in response to an Office Action mailed on October 20, 2004 for the above-identified Appeal. Although the Office Action appears to set a response time of January 20, 2005, we are treating the October 20, 2004 Office Action as an Examiner's Answer under the new rules (i.e., 37 C.F.R. § 41.41), response to which is due by December 20, 2004. The Board is respectfully requested to consider this Reply Brief directed to new grounds of rejection raised in the Examiner's Answer.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 20, 2004.

Helen Gerace

(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

 December 20, 2004
Signature Date

Appellant's Reply Brier Under 37 C.F.R. § 41.41
Application No. 09/455,574
Reply to Office Action dated October 20, 2004
Paper Dated: December 20, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 3749-991620

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

Stockhausen GmbH & Co. KG is the Assignee of the entire right, title, and interest to the above-identified application and, as such, is the real party in interest in this Appeal.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no other appeals or interferences known to the Appellant, the Appellant's legal representative, or the Assignee of the above-identified application which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending Appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-34, 37 and 51-60 have been canceled.

Claims 35, 36, 38-50 and 61-64 are pending.

Claims 1-2 (believed to be claims 35-36) stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by newly cited U.S. Patent No. 5,384,179 to Roe et al. (hereinafter "the Roe patent").

Claims 35, 36, 39, 41-45 and 47-49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness over previously cited U.S. Patent No. 4,076,663 to Masuda et al. (hereinafter "the Masuda patent") in view of the Roe patent.

It appears that the Examiner has forgotten to include his reasons for rejecting claims 46, 50 and 61-64 in the Office Action.

The Examiner has now included claim 38 along with claims 40 and 41 as containing allowable subject matter and, therefore, these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 35, 36, 39, 41-50 and 61-64 are at issue in this Appeal.

Claims 35, 36, 38-50 and 61-64 are reproduced in Appendix A which is attached hereto.

APPENDIX A

1-34. (Canceled)

① 35. (Previously Presented) A substrate comprising a super-absorbent material applied to the substrate, wherein the super-absorbent material is obtained by allowing suitable monomers to polymerize in the presence of a catalyst in order to obtain a pre-cross-linked polymer solution, adding a cross-linking agent containing two functional groups which are capable after thermal excitation of reacting within at least ten minutes with carboxylate or carbonic acid functional groups to the polymer solution to obtain a pasty composition, subsequently applying the composition on or in the substrate and allowing the applied composition to dry for one to three minutes at between 150°C and 200°C to form a swellable paste, and wherein the pasty composition is applied to the substrate in the form of discrete, substantially semi-spherical islets having a diameter of 10 μ to 1000 μ .

② 36. (Previously Presented) A substrate comprising a super-absorbent material applied to the substrate, wherein the material has a significantly enlarged surface area achieved by having the super-absorbent material in the form of a plurality of discrete, substantially semi-spherical islets with a diameter between 10 and 1000 μ .

37. (Canceled)

③ 38. (Previously Presented) The substrate as claimed in claim 35, wherein the super-absorbent material is a foam.

④ 39. (Previously Presented) The substrate as claimed in claim 35, wherein the pasty composition applied to the substrate is allowed to dry and cross-link.

⑤ 40. (Previously Presented) The substrate as claimed in claim 39, further comprising adding a foaming agent to the pasty composition prior to applying the